

**SECRET**

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FILE Personnel 2

16 JAN 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Leave Privileges for Single Personnel Assigned Vietnam

1. With the substantial escalation of military activities in Vietnam in 1966, during which time the Agency, by Presidential direction, became correspondingly more heavily committed in the Rural Development and Pacification Programs and in intelligence operations supporting U. S. political and military priority objectives, the selection and assignment of an increasing number of personnel to that area posed serious and complicated problems of administration and management. As a civilian agency of government, the filling of overseas assignments normally is accomplished by voluntary acceptance by employees determined as having the necessary qualifications in skills, area knowledge, experience and language capability. As the demand for personnel to fill assignments in Vietnam increased it became apparent that the established voluntary acceptance policy could not keep pace with the pressing requirements. Initially, single persons were selected wherever possible because of the prohibition against families accompanying employees to Vietnam. However, since possession of skills, area knowledge and experience were of significant importance in this increasingly critical area, and the pool of available, qualified volunteers began drying up, the Agency instituted a policy of "directed assignments." Personnel having the necessary qualifications were released from less critical assignments at Headquarters and in overseas areas, often short-of-tour and with minimum consideration for personal desires or inconvenience. Again, single persons were selected initially but, because of the size of the requirement, married employees necessarily had to be called upon to fill the quotas.

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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